

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the title of the present application to read as follows:

---A FILTER PROCESS FOR OBTAINING A SOFT FOCUS PICTURE IMAGE ---

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 17, line 11, to read as follows:

At step 120, whether a shutter ~~bottom~~ button is pushed, namely, whether a shutter is released is determined. If the shutter is not released, the image processing routine finishes. If the shutter is released, the image is taken in by the CCD 52 at step 130, the image data is processed in the analog-digital signal processing circuit 53, and then the image data is stored in the SDRAM 55 as the Bayer data 10 at step 140. At step 160, whether the photograph mode which is input at step 100 is the soft focus mode is determined. If the mode is the soft focus mode, the Bayer data 10 is given the image processing for the soft focus mode at step 170 (shown in Fig. 6). Unless the mode is soft focus mode, the Bayer data 10 is given the image processing for the other than soft focus mode at step 180. The processed image data 14 which is processed at step 170 or 180 is output on the LCD monitor 59 at step 181. At step 182, the processed image data 14 is encoded in accordance with JPEG standard. Next, at step 183, the encoded processed image data 14 is stored on the memory 58, and then, the image processing routine in this embodiment finishes.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 18, line 25, to read as follows:

At step 210, the coefficients α and β are determined according to the soft focus level as ~~show~~ shown in Table 1. The luminance data of the original image is separated into the first luminance data Y (α) and the second luminance data Y (β) according to the ratio of α to β as described above.